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(54) Title: **PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF RACEMIC 2-[[2-(4-HYDROXYPHENYL)ETHYL]THIO]-3-[4-(2-[[4-  
[(METHYLSULFONYL)OXY]PHENOXY]ETHYL)PHENYL]-PROPANOIC ACID**

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a process for the preparation of substantially racemic 2-[[2-(4-hydrox-  
yphenyl)ethyl]thio]-3-[4-(2-[[4-[(methylsulfonyl)oxy]phenoxy]ethyl)phenyl]-propanoic acid which comprises reacting  
2-[[2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)ethyl]thio]-3-[4-(2-[[4-[(methylsulfonyl)oxy]phenoxy]ethyl)phenyl]propanoic acid enriched in one  
enantiomer with a base in an inert solvent.

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